

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-6 (cancelled)

7(Currently amended). An apparatus for depositing a sample of a nonvolatile biologically functional and/or biologically active substance onto a deposit area of a substrate by electrospraying a solution comprising a non-volatile biologically functional and/or biologically active substance, the apparatus comprising:

an electrosprayer for creating from the solution, in a gas-filled space, a mist of charged particles including the non-volatile biologically functional and/or biologically active substance; and

an electrophotic means for creating, selectively by illumination or non-illumination,

a first potential, attractive to the charged particles, on the deposit areas of the substrate surface, and

a second potential, not attractive to the charged particles, on areas of the substrate surface other than the deposit areas.

8(Currently amended). The apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a first an electrostatic device and a substrate, wherein said electrostatic device is coupled to the substrate.

9(original). The apparatus according to claim 7, comprising a mask disposed a distance below the surface of the substrate.

10(original). The apparatus according to claim 9, comprising a source of illumination to shine a light pattern of deposit areas through the mask onto the substrate.

11(original). An apparatus for depositing a sample of a nonvolatile biologically functional and/or biologically active substance onto a deposit area of a substrate by electrospraying a solution comprising a non-volatile biologically functional and/or biologically active substance, the apparatus comprising:

an electrosprayer for creating from the solution, in a gas-filled space, a mist of charged particles including the non-volatile biologically functional and/or biologically active substance;

a first electrostatic device holding a surface of the substrate adjacent to the deposit area at a first potential attractive to the charged particles; and

a mask held at a potential repulsive to the charged particles, the mask being disposed a distance above the surface of the substrate, the mask including a hole therethrough located above the deposit area;

wherein a size of the hole is in a predetermined ratio to the distance, and wherein the predetermined ratio, the first potential, and the second potential generate an electric field in a region of the

hole whereby the charged particles are focused and the deposit area is smaller than a hole area of the hole.

12(Currently amended). An apparatus for depositing a sample of a nonvolatile biologically functional and/or biologically active substance onto a deposit area of a substrate by electro spraying a solution comprising a non-volatile biologically functional and/or biologically active substance, the apparatus comprising:

an electro sprayer for creating from the solution, in a gas-filled space, a mist of charged particles including the non-volatile biologically functional and/or biologically active substance;

a first electrostatic device holding a surface of the substrate adjacent to the deposit area at a first potential attractive to the charged particles; and

a mask held at a potential repulsive to the charged particles, the mask being disposed a distance above the surface of the substrate, the mask including a hole therethrough located above the deposit area ~~The apparatus in accordance with claim 11, wherein the mask reaches the second potential by incorporating charge from the charged particles;~~

wherein a size of the hole is in a predetermined ratio to the distance, and wherein the predetermined ratio, the first potential, and the second potential generate an electric field in a region of the hole whereby the charged particles are focused and the deposit area is smaller than a hole area of the hole.

13(Currently amended). The apparatus in accordance with claim [[12]] 14, wherein the non-conducting material has a surface absorbance of the charged particles such that the second potential is repulsive to the mist of charged particles.

14(original). The apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein the mask is made of an electrically non-conducting material.

15(original). The apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein the mask is made of an electrically conducting material.

16(original). The apparatus in accordance with claim 11, wherein the mask is made of an electrically conducting material.

17(original). The apparatus in accordance with claim 16, wherein the apparatus includes a second electrostatic device holding the mask to the second potential.

18(original). The apparatus according to claim 11, comprising a mask shifter for moving the mask parallel to the substrate after deposition of the charged particles onto the deposit area; whereby another portion of the surface of the substrate may become the deposit area.

19(original). The apparatus according to claim 18, comprising means to oscillate the capillary above the mask while the mask moves.

20(original). The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the mask includes an array of holes.

21(original). The apparatus according to claim 19, comprising means for displacing the mask a specified amount generally parallel to the substrate surface after a deposition of a particular substance.

22(original). The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the displacement is less than spacing between adjacent ones of the holes, whereby a pattern of spots can be formed in an array of multicomponent matrices.

23(Currently amended). The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said electrosprayer comprises a capillary tip and the apparatus further comprises ~~comprising~~ a guard ring having a potential of the same sign as the charged particles leaving the capillary tip and positioned approximately at a level of the capillary tip to surround a zone of electrospray discharge with a charge that repels the charged particles, whereby scatter during electrospray is prevented.

24(original). The apparatus according to claim 11, comprising means for periodic recharging of the substrate surface with a stream of counter-ions from a corona discharge.

25(original). The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the means for periodic recharging comprises an array of microelectrodes in a shielded chamber.

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26(original). The apparatus according to claim 11,  
comprising a non-conductive protective screen disposed around the mist.

27(original). The apparatus according to claim 26,  
wherein the protective screen is perforated.

28(original). The apparatus according to claim 26,  
wherein the protective screen is conical.

29(original). The apparatus according to claim 26,  
wherein the protective screen is cylindrical.

30(original). The apparatus according to claim 11,  
wherein the hole in the mask is not round.